

Subject: May Newsletter from LA City Councilmember Paul Koretz (CD5)

From: "Councilmember Paul Koretz" <Paul.Koretz@lacity.org>

Date: 05/13/2017 10:03 AM

To: "Lisa Schechter" <lisa@mediadistrict.org>



LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Councilmember Proposes Measure to Free Billy the Elephant from the LA Zoo

Concerned over the treatment and well-being of Billy, the male elephant at the Los Angeles Zoo, Councilmember Paul Koretz, who serves as Chair of the LA City Council's Personnel and Animal Welfare Committee, introduced a motion to immediately begin plans to safely relocate Billy to a suitable sanctuary environment.



Billy is a Malaysian male elephant that has lived at the Los Angeles Zoo for most of his 30 years; his almost-lifelong captivity has garnered attention from animal rights advocates including Voice for The Animals.

For many years, Billy has lived in an area completely unnatural for an animal of his size and of his stature, said the Councilmember. It's sad and wrong to see any animal, living in captivity, in social isolation, restricted in movement, and physical activity. In fact, he has long been displaying stereotypic behavior, such as repetitive head bobbing, which goes on for extended periods of time. It's time to free Billy because we cannot and must not treat animals in this manner, said Koretz.

Federal, City Leaders Urge Trump Administration to Condemn Gay Concentration Camps in Chechnya

Following the reports of horrific atrocities committed on gay men in Chechnya, Los Angeles City Councilmembers Paul Koretz (CD5), Mitch O'Farrell (CD13) and Mike Bonin (CD11) held a press conference with United States Congressman Adam Schiff (D-Calif.) and Lorri L. Jean, Chief Executive Officer of the Los Angeles LGBT Center. The



purpose of the press conference was to publicly call upon the Trump Administration and the United States Department of State to sanction Chechnya and the Russian Federation, and take any other actions necessary to stop their inhumane treatment of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people and violations of the basic human rights. Specifically, the beating and torture of gay men in concentration camps in the Republic of Chechnya.

"As Los Angeles City Councilmember of the 5th District and former Mayor of West Hollywood, I have spent my career fighting anti-LGBTQ discrimination with the same vehemence as every other kind of discrimination, said Councilmember Koretz. These atrocities must stop and stop immediately. We don't fight discrimination by keeping it in the dark we chase it out of the shadows by shining a strong light on inhumanity wherever it may occur. Today we stand together with love for our fellow human beings. Today we reaffirm that we will not stand idly by while our LGBTQ brothers and sisters suffer."

The Councilmembers then introduced a resolution supporting sanctions for Chechnya Republic and Russian Federation later that morning.

Los Angeles' Animal Shelters Are On Track to Become No Kill By Year's End

The Los Angeles City Council is doubling-down on its goal of eradicating euthanasia from all city-operated animal shelters by year's end. On Wednesday 5/3, the City Council voted to increase the city's commitment to fashioning a "comprehensive strategy" to meet the goal by December 31.

The nationally recognized benchmark of a "no-kill" status for a city is a save rate of 90 percent, and Los Angeles City Councilman Paul Koretz said the city is on pace to meet the goal.

"We are now approaching what is technically no-kill, which is a 90 percent save rate. At this pace, we expect to achieve this by the end of the year," said Koretz, who chairs the Council's Personnel and Animal Welfare Committee.

The Council first made the pledge to meet a no-kill status in 2011, and since then, the rate of euthanasia for animals in shelters operated by Los Angeles Animal Services has dropped significantly year by year.



Protecting Los Angeles' Biodiversity

This week, the Los Angeles City Council voted to support Councilmember Paul Koretz's motion to protect LA's precious biodiversity. Scientists, advocates and policy makers will begin working together to protect Los Angeles' unique environment by creating an index to identify and measure all of plants, animals, insects, trees of Los Angeles.



Los Angeles is located within the California Floristic Province, recognized as one of 35 biodiversity hotspots on the planet and the only hotspot in the continental United States. It is now commonly understood that the health of the environment can be measured by the health of the flora and fauna within its region. Passage of this motion creates a working group with the Mayor's office that maintains communication and information sharing between scientists, policy makers and advocates.

OUT IN THE COMMUNITY

2nd and 3rd Grade Children Are Concerned About the Future of LA Wildlife

Councilman Paul Koretz welcomed the 2nd and 3rd grade class of iLead Encino at City Hall. The children have been studying Los Angeles wildlife and their habitats and they had big ideas about how the City should care for the Earth. Each learner wrote a persuasive letter to Councilmember Koretz, presenting a solution to help protect native wildlife.

Their ideas ranged from building wildlife corridors, making rodenticides illegal and installing barn owl nests to take care of rodent infestation, and altering oil drum regulations to prevent future oil spills.



Fun and Learning for the Whole Family

Carthay School Science Fair & Environmental Expo
Saturday May 13 11AM-4PM
6351 W Olympic Blvd, 90048



NEWS YOU CAN USE

Mulholland Drive Closure For Resurfacing

The City is scheduled to resurface **Mulholland Drive from Nicada Drive to Beverly Glen** on **Saturday May 27, 2017**. Profiling and repaving the segment will happen on the same day (Saturday).

Traffic will be routed to Nicada Drive for those headed east bound and Beverly Glen for those headed west bound. Message boards will be placed at the top of Mulholland Drive on Monday May 20th advising drivers of this planned work. As always, any emergency response vehicles will be given full access to their destination. With high expectations the City expects to complete this project on one day.

We understand that this may be an inconvenience to drivers, but the segment itself will require a full closure in order to be completed. Our office will also inform the local homeowner associations, neighborhood watch groups and Neighborhood Council to help spread the word. We hope you can also help us spread the word to the community.

Los Angeles Wants Your Bulky Items

LA Sanitation is offering five (5) Saturdays to drop-off your bulky items: (5/20, 6/17, 9/16, 10/14, 11/18.) From 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. on those days, City of Los Angeles residents can drop off their unwanted bulky items at five (5) different locations throughout Los Angeles.

Residents must present proof of residency by providing their most current LADWP bill along with a state-issued driver's license or state identification.

For more information about the free drop off events or residential curbside collection of bulky items at your home or apartment, please call 311 or use the MyLA311 app for smart phones; or call LA Sanitation Customer Care Center at 1-800-773-2489.



KEEP LOS ANGELES CLEAN SPECIAL EVENTS
FREE BULKY ITEM DROP OFF
FOR CITY OF LOS ANGELES
RESIDENTS*

SPRING DROP-OFF DATES

April 22, 2017, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
May 20, 2017, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
June 17, 2017, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

FALL DROP-OFF DATES

September 16, 2017, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
October 14, 2017, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
November 18, 2017, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

List of materials accepted differs from residential curbside bulky item collection program.

ACCEPTED ITEMS

Bookcase	Headboard
Box Spring	Love Seats
Carpet	Mattress
Chair	Nightstand
Changing Table	Recliner
Chest of Drawers	Shelving
Couch	Sofa
Crib	Stool
Desk	Table
Drywall	Tires
Entertainment Center	Wood
Filing Cabinet	Yard Trimmings
Futon	

PROHIBITED ITEMS

Appliances (Kitchen, Office)	Incinerator Residue
Asphalt and Concrete	Industrial Waste
Batteries	Infectious Waste
Construction Waste	Liquid Waste
Dead Animals	Medical Waste
Demolition Waste	Scrap Metal
Dirt and Soil	Sewage Sludge
Electronic Waste	
(Items with Electrical Plugs)	
Hazardous Waste	
(Solvents, Automotive, Flammables, Electronics)	

LOCATIONS WILL BE OPEN FROM 8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

East Valley District Yard
11050 Pendleton St., Sun Valley, CA 91352
West Valley District Yard
8840 Vanalden Ave., Northridge, CA 91324
Harbor District Yard
1400 N. Gaffey St., San Pedro CA 90731

West Los Angeles District Yard
2027 Stoner Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90025
Central Los Angeles Recycling and Transfer Station
2201 E. Washington Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90021

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